

BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



289

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

❧ 1933. ❧

BY

JOHN WM. TALENT, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,

— AND —

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT

TO THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

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BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER LYNE.

HEALTH AND BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Alderman SHEARD.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor BURGESS.

The MAYOR, Alderman MASSEY, Councillors ANDERTON,
FLOWERS, GREEN, (Mrs.) HEGINBOTTOM, RALPHS,
SHOOTER and TOWNSLEY.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Councillor (Mrs.) HEGINBOTTOM.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor ANDERTON.

The MAYOR, Councillors ARNOLD, BURGESS, FISH,
FLOWERS, HIRST, PARRY, and TOWNSLEY.



THE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,
TOWN HALL CHAMBERS,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE,

April, 1934

To the Mayor and Council of the
Municipal Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration the Annual Report on the health of the Borough and on the work of the Public Health Department, for the year 1933.

During the year much consideration has been given to the question of slum property. A five years' programme, in respect of slum clearance, was decided upon.

The clearance area in Charlestown, for which a Compulsory Purchase Order had been obtained, was cleared by the demolition of old property thereon. A large amount of inspection was carried out in preparation for an application for a Demolition Order in another area. In addition, individual unfit houses were dealt with, either by demolition or by the carrying out of necessary repairs.

Another important improvement has been the abolition of dry ash tubs and ashpits. This scheme necessitated extensive re-construction, with the provision of metal ashbins in each instance.

The full scheme of Meat Inspection, initiated in 1932, has been followed out very thoroughly by your Inspectors. In connection with this question of meat inspection, the humane killer is now to be used for the slaughter of sheep, as well as for other animals.

The work at the Child Welfare Centres has been more popular than ever before, the attendances shewing a large increase on any previous year.

I am glad to take this opportunity of thanking Dr. Evans, Mr. Handforth and each member of the staff for their excellent work and support during the year.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JOHN WILLIAM TALENT.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:—

MEDICAL.

J. W. Talent, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer,
Maternity and Child Welfare Officer, Superintendent
of Infectious Diseases Hospitals.

Mary Evans, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Assistant School
Medical Officer, Assistant Medical Officer for
Maternity and Child Welfare.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

C. Sykes Handforth, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Chief Inspector Meat
and Other Foods, etc.

Thomas C. Ward, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,
Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat
and other Foods, etc.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Mrs. A. Wolfenden, S.R.N., C.M.B.,
Superintendent Health Visitor.

Mrs. Parkinson, S.R.N., C.M.B., Health Visitor.

Mrs. E. Coffey, C.M.B. Health Visitor.

Miss S. A. Hawcroft, S.R.N., C.M.B.
Health Visitors' Cert. R.S.I. Health Visitor.

HOSPITAL.

Miss Hollis, S.R.N., General Trained Nurse, Matron of
Infectious Diseases Hospital.

One Staff Nurse.

Two Probationer Nurses.

REPORT.

Section A—Statistics & Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in Acres)	1,983
Registrar General's Estimate of Population, (1933)...	50,540
Population (Census 1931)	51,573
Number of Inhabited Houses (1933)	14,040
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	12,484
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931)	13,561
" " " " (1921)	12,370
Rateable Value	£221,711
Sum represented by a penny rate	£835

The chief industries are Cotton Spinning and Manufacturing, Iron and Brass Founding, Brewing, Coal Mining, and some minor industries.

The foilowing table shews the extent of Unemployment :

UNEMPLOYMENT IN ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE IN 1933.

	Men	Women	Juveniles	Total
Insured Persons at July, 1932	16,350	9,110	1,600	27,060
Percentage Unem- ployment, 1933.				
1st Quarter ...	37.9	28.3	27.9	34.1
2nd Quarter ...	34.9	26.8	22.9	31.5
3rd Quarter ...	34.5	27.5	19.2	31.2
4th Quarter ...	30.3	20.7	14.4	26.1
Average Percentage Unemployed for 1933	34.4	25.8	21.2	30.7

(2) **Vital Statistics:—**

BIRTHS	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate ...	606	319	287
Illegitimate...	28	11	17
Total	634	330	304

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the
estimated resident
population 12·5

Still Births... 41 20 21

Rate per 1000 Total (live
and still births) Births 60

Deaths 704 337 367

Death Rate per 1,000 of the
estimated resident
population 13·9

Deaths from Puerperal causes—

	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal sepsis	2	
Other puerperal causes	2	
Total	4	5·92

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1000 live births	64
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	64
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births	71

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	1
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	9

Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate		
Live Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Death rate from Tuberculosis of Reproductive System.	Death-rate from Cancer.	Per 1,000 Live Births.	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.	Rate of Deaths under One year per 1,000 Live Births.

Mean of
5 years

1928-1932...	14·1	14·0	0·76	1·55	5·71	...	77
Year 1932 ...	13·5	13·6	0·60	1·62	4·34	4·06	84
1933 ...	12·5	13·9	0·73	2·05	6·30	5·92	64

*Increase or
Decrease
in 1933 on—
5 years'*

Average

1928 1932 -1.6 -0.1 -0.03 +0.50 +0.59 ... -13

Previous

Year... -1.0 +0.3 +0.13 +0.43 +1.96 +1.86 -20

Period.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
1891	40,462	31.8	24.9
1901	43,890	24.8	22.9
1911	45,179	23.0	17.2
1921	44,360	19.6	13.5
1931	51,573	14.7	13.7

The following table shows the improvement in the Rate of Infant Mortality, per 1000 births, during recent years in the Borough:—

1914	—	183	1924	—	77
1915	—	167	1925	—	92
1916	—	116	1926	—	102
1917	—	101	1927	—	90
1918	—	120	1928	—	69
1919	—	118	1929	—	107
1920	—	119	1930	—	58
1921	—	105	1931	—	69
1922	—	91	1932	—	84
1923	—	81	1933	—	64

Section B—General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

(a) Laboratory Facilities:—

These remain as previously. Clinical materials (Sputum, Swabs, &c.,) are sent for examination and report either to the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, or to the District Infirmary.

Samples of water, milk, and foodstuffs are similarly examined and reported upon by Mr. Melling, F.I.C., Borough Analyst, The Cliff, Manchester.

(b) - Ambulance Facilities :—

For cases of infectious disease two motor ambulances, kept at the town's yard.

For non infectious and accident cases, two motor ambulances at the Central Police Station.

The arrangements for the use of these ambulances work very satisfactorily. No cases of transference of a patient from one ambulance to another at the borough boundary have ever occurred and would not be permitted. The services of the ambulances for infectious and accident cases are free of charge.

Private individuals may arrange for the use of the police ambulances at a fixed charge

(c) Nursing in the Home

General—The District Nursing Association provides three Nurses for general nursing. A grant of £50 per annum is made by the Town Council in consideration of the fact that they visit and attend all notified cases of Pneumonia.

During the year 110 cases have been so attended.

The number of visits paid to these cases was 809.

Infectious Diseases.—No nursing is provided for these in their homes

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres :

(i) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Name & Situation	Clinics Held	By Whom Provided
Richmond Street.	1. Infant Consultations	Ashton Council
	Monday, 9-30—12	
	2. Sewing Class, &c.	
	Thursday, 2-30—4-30	
	3. Ante-Natal Clinic	

Alternate Fridays, 2—5

4. Sunlight Clinic

Tuesday & Friday, 9-30—12

Monday & Wednesday, 2—5

Scotland Street.

1. Infant Consultations

Tuesday, 2—5

2. Sewing Class, &c.

Wednesday, 2-30—5

3. Ante-Natal Clinic

Alternate Fridays, 2—5

Ormond Street.

1. Infant Consultations

Wednesday, 2-30—4-30

(ii) *School Clinic.*

Water Street.

1. Minor Ailments Clinic Ashton
Monday & Thursday, 2—5 Council

2. Dental Clinic

Monday to Friday,
9—12 and 2—5

3. Ophthalmic Clinic

Monday & Wednesday
2-30—4-30

4. Orthopaedic Clinic

Friday, 10—12 & 2—5

(iii) *Tuberculosis.*

Warrington Street.

Monday, 10-30 a.m.

Lancashire

Tuesday, 2-30 p.m.

County

Friday, 10 a.m.

Council

1st Tuesday, 6-30 p.m.

(iv) *Venereal Diseases.*

District Infirmary

Monday, 6—7

Lancashire

Wednesday, 3—4

County

Thursday, 6—7-30

Council

(e) **Hospitals.**

(1) Borough Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Fountain Street, Ashton.

During the year 60 scarlet fever patients were treated :—

	Ashton Cases.	Outside Cases.	Total.
Remaining in Hospital, 1st January, 1933	10	0	10
Admitted during the year	43	7	50
Discharged during the year	52	5	57
Died during the year	0	0	0
Remaining in Hospital, 1st January, 1934	1	2	3

Districts from which Outside Cases were received :—

Linchurst and Saddleworth.

The arrangements for laundry work were improved by the installation of a washing machine, driven by an electric dynamo

(ii) Ashton under-Lyne and District Joint Smallpox Hospital.

This is situated at Hartshead, three miles distant from the Ashton Town Hall.

No patients were admitted for the twelve months.

A special inspection was made by the Chief of the Ashton Fire Brigade of the arrangements for protection against fire. Certain structural alterations were carried out under his supervision

(iii) The Lake Hospital, Fountain Street.

This is controlled by the Public Assistance Committee of the Lancashire County Council.

An arrangement exists between the Ashton Council and the Lake Hospital Committee whereby patients are admitted to the Maternity Ward for normal confinements. The accounts for these cases are discharged by the Ashton Council.

Table showing the classification of the accommodation for SICK, MATERNITY AND MENTAL CASES, and the number of beds occupied on the 31st December, 1933.

Classification of Wards.	Number of Wards.	BEDS.								
		Men.		Women.		Children under 16 years of age.)		Total.		
		Pro- vided. (3)	Occu- pied. (4)	Pro- vided. (5)	Occu- pied. (6)	Pro- vided. (7)	Occu- pied. (8)	Pro- vided. (9)	Occu- pied. (10)	
(1)	(2)									
1. Medical	1	8	120	93	120	90	..	15	240	198
2. Surgical	1									
3. Chronic Sick		Included				..	..	..	..	..
4. Children	1	..	..	..	..	27	19	27	19	
5. Venereal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Isolation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Maternity	2	..	..	38	13	..	..	38	13	
9. Mental										
(a) Lunacy Act, 1890	1 Male	52	51	..	..	..	..	52	51	
i. Short stay	1 Female	..	..	95	43	..	3	95	46	
ii. Long stay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Mental										
Defectives	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Other	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total		172	144	253	146	27	37	452	927	

For actual number of occupants add 1 man, 1 woman 10 maternity women, private patients.

(iv) District Infirmary.

Situate in Darnton Road.

No. of Beds 200

Of the patients treated, 1,082 in-patients, and 2,988 out-patients, were residents of Ashton. In addition to this 84 Ashton residents attended the Pathological Laboratory for blood counts and other purposes.

The Borough of Ashton sent 37% of the total number of in-patients, and 41% of the total of out-patients.

The patients treated are General Medical and Surgical for adults and children, also complicated Maternity, Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia cases.

An annual grant of 200 guineas is made by the Ashton Town Council towards the funds of the Institution.

Report upon Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

Notification of Births Act, (1907 and 1915):—

Number of births notified	632
„ „ not notified	0
„ „ Stillbirths notified	35

Lake Hospital

72 mothers were confined at the Lake Hospital under the Council's Scheme. Average duration of stay 14 days.

District Infirmary.

19 difficult cases were treated or confined, and 1 case of puerperal sepsis.

There are 15 Midwives practising in the area of which the following is a list :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Qualification</i>
Egerton, B. J. (Mrs.)	Ashford House, Stamford Street,	C.M.B.
Jones, Louisa (Miss)	43, Arundel Street, Cockbrook,	C.M.B.
Marcroft, Fanny, (Mrs.)	10, Chester Square,	C.M.B.
Kay, Ellen, (Mrs.)	23, Henrietta Street,	Bona fide
Woffenden, I. B., (Mrs.)	134, Whiteacre Rd.,	C.M.B.
Ibbotson, A. E., (Mrs.)	41, Alexandra Street,	C.M.B.
Whitfield, R., (Miss)	22, Minto Street,	C.M.B.
Wood, Lotty, (Mrs.)	92, Pottinger Street,	C.M.B.
Bancroft, A., (Miss)	2, Springfield Street, Hurst Cross,	C.M.B.
Hoolahan, A., (Mrs.)	175, Whiteacre Road,	C.M.B.
Jenkinson, R., (Mrs.)	"Melrose Place," 47, Elizabeth St.,	C.M.B.
Horwood, Bertha (Mrs.)	c/o Selby, 80, Stamford Street	C.M.B.
Harrop, Agnes (Mrs.)	111, Stamford Sq., Cockbrook.	C.M.B.
Sutcliffe, Mary (Miss)	50, Mansfield Street.	C.M.B.
Barrett, Lillie (Mrs.)	70, Hertford Street.	C.M.B.

Gynaecological Disorders	3
Debility	2
Hæmorrhage.....	2
T.B. Glands (Neck).....	2
Pendulous Abdomen	2
Exophthalmic Goitre	1
Arthritis	1
Other Defects	9

Adexolin Capsules containing Vitamin A. & D. in a concentrated form have been given in certain cases with beneficial results.

Health Visiting:—

By the amalgamation of the Nursing Staffs of the Health and School Medical Services last year, a considerable amount of overlapping in the visits of Nurses has been remedied. All the visiting to a child for health purposes, from the time of birth to the time of leaving school at 14 years of age, is carried out by one Nurse.

Home Visiting.

(1) To Expectant Mothers, First Visits.....	128
(2) ,, ,, Total Visits	213
(3) To Children under 1 year of age, First Visits	634
(4) ,, ,, ,, Total Visits	1877
(5) To Children between the ages of 1 & 5 years, Total Visits.....	2626
(6) Visits to Still Births	37
(7) ,, Boarded-out Children	46
(8) ,, Deaths under 1 year of age.....	28
(9) Miscellaneous Visits	567
(10) Visits to Infectious Cases	52
(11) Cases treated	39

Child Welfare Centres.

Consultations held.....	143
Attendances at Consultations	4331
Number of Children Weighed	9057

Total Number of Attendances at all Centres during the year :

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|------|
| (1) | By Children under 1 year of age | 8826 |
| (2) | „ between the ages of 1 & 5 yrs. | 4038 |

The work at the Child Welfare Centres has been more popular than ever before, the attendances shewing a large increase on any previous year.

Total Number of Children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year.

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) | Children under 1 year of age | 421 |
| (2) | „ between the ages of 1 & 5 years | 109 |

Instructional and Social Classes

Attendances of Mothers	3607
Attendances of Toddlers	1800
„ at Sewing Classes	1505
„ at Cookery Demonstrations	212
Health Talks given	36

During the year 4337 packets of dried milk were given free the cost of which was as follows :—

East Centre	£131 16 6
West Centre	£137 12 3
Hurst Centre	£89 13 0
Total	£359 1 9

Amongst 632 confinements investigated by the Health Visitors were :

Stillbirths	35
Cesarean Section	2
Instrumental Deliveries	20
Difficult Confinements	27
Maternal Complications	105
Puerperal Pyrexia	4
Puerperal Sepsis	2
Premature Births.....	11
Illegitimate Births	9

Still Births.

Under the Notification of Births Act, 1915, all still births occurring after the 28th week of pregnancy must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health,

The Births and Death Registration Act, 1926, makes further provision for investigation, registration, and the burial of still births.

The number of still births notified and investigated during the year was 35.

The investigation of these cases revealed that :—

- 19 occurred at full-term.
- 8 occurred at the seventh month.
- 6 occurred at the eighth month.
- 34 were legitimate.
- 1 was illegitimate.
- 15 occurred in Hospital.
- 20 occurred at home.

And that the causes were :—

Difficult Confinement	7
Ante Partum Haemorrhage	4
Malformation	3
Prematurity	3
Illness in Mother	3
Feebleness	2
Prolonged Labour	2
Post Maturity	2
Hydrocephalus	1
Fall	1
Shock	1
Breech (Spine dislocated)	1
Hydramnios	1
Albuminaria	1
No cause ascertained	3
Total.....	35

In September two of our Health Visitors attended the Post Graduate Course of Lectures at Manchester.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum :

- Number of cases notified 3
- Number of cases in which vision was unimpaired... 3

Puerperal Pyrexia :—

Number of cases notified 5

3 cases were treated at home and 2 were removed to Hospital.

Puerperal Fever :—

Number of cases notified 2

Both cases were removed to Hospital.

Eye Clinic :—

10 children were referred from the Welfare Centres to the Eye Clinic for consultation and treatment of eye defects.

7 of these were cases of squint.

Minor Ailments Clinic :—

52 children were referred to the School Clinic for the treatment of minor ailments.

Dental Clinic :—

During the year 37 children and 21 expectant mothers attended the Dental Clinic.

The Routine Examination of 2 year old Children.

The routine examination of the 2 year old children has been continued. A full account of this work was given in previous reports.

Boarded-out Children.

Administration of Part I. of the Children's Act, 1908, as amended by Part V. of the Children and Young Persons' Act, 1932.

- (a) Number of Persons on the Register who were receiving Children for reward at the end of the year..... 7
- (b) Number of Children on the Register at the end of the year..... 9
- (c) Number of Infant Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were Health Visitors 3

Orthopædic Clinic.

Infant Welfare Children requiring Orthopædic treatment are seen by the Visiting Orthopædic Surgeon at the School Clinic.

The following is a summary of the work done at the After-Care Centre :—

Talipes.

2 children made 43 attendances.

During the year 1 child was recommended to Biddulph.

Rickets, Knock-knee.

22 children made 67 attendances.

During the year 1 child was recommended to Biddulph.

Deformities.

10 children made 18 attendances.

Flat Feet.

1 child made 2 attendances.

Rickets, Bow-Legs.

7 children made 9 attendances.

During the year 1 child was recommended to Biddulph.

Unclassified.

8 children made 11 attendances.

Pigeon Chest.

1 child made 1 attendance.

Congenital Hip Disease.

1 child made 8 attendances.

Birth Palsy.

1 child made 2 attendances and was recommended to Biddulph.

Scoliosis.

1 child made 2 attendances.

Totals.

54 children made 163 attendances.

3 children were sent for X-Ray to Ancoats.

4 children were recommended to Biddulph.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.

These cases are attended to by the Public Assistance Committee at the Lake Hospital and Darnton House.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

As Local Supervising Authority under the Nursing Homes Registration Act 1927, one Nursing and Maternity Home is supervised.

During the year this Nursing Home was removed from Stalybridge Road to Lune Villa, Stockport Road.

There was one application for registration. The premises were inspected and found suitable for a Maternity Home, but the application was withdrawn.

Neo-Natal Deaths (under 1 month):—

Cause	0-1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total
Prematurity	8	1	0	1	10
Broncho					
Pneumonia	0	1	0	1	2
Spina Bifida	2	0	0	0	2
Bronchitis	0	0	0	2	2
Marasmus	0	0	2	0	2
Congenital Cardiac					
Defect	1	0	0	0	1
Imperfect Develop-					
ment (Micro-					
cephalic)	1	0	0	0	1
Convulsions	0	1	0	0	1
Total	12	3	2	4	21

Infant Deaths (1-12 months)

Causes:

Broncho-Pneumonia	5
Convulsions	4
Acute Gastro-Enteritis	3
Marasmus	2
Bronchitis	1
Congenital Specific Disease	1
Asthenia	1

Hydrocephalus (Spina Bifida)	1
Tubercular Meningitis	1
Adenitis (Neck)	1
Total.....	20

Neo-Natal Death Rate for the last 5 Years : -

Year	Deaths under 1 month		Live Births notified		Rate
1929	...	38	...	691	54
1930	...	23	...	658	34
1931	...	28	...	722	38
1932	...	36	...	677	53
1933	...	21	...	597	35
Total...	146	...	3345	...	

Average Rate for the last 5 Years..... 42

Causes :—

Prematurity	63	or	43%
Congenital Malformation	20	or	13%
Marasmus, Debility, and Inanition ...	26	or	17%
Convulsions	12	or	8%
Other Causes	25	or	17%

Weeks.	Deaths.
0 —1	99
1—2	17
2—3	14
3 —4	16

Artificial Sunlight Clinic.

165 children made 2137 attendances.

Complaints :—

Rickets	51
Debility	33
Underweight	24
Anaemia... ..	18
Bronchitis	15
Adenitis	10
Weak Muscles	5
Anorexia	3
Otorrhoea	1
Marasmus	1

Enuresis	1
Hemiplegia	1
Weak Heart	1
Delayed Walking	1
	—
Total.....	165
	—

Convalescent Treatment.

A scheme for providing the benefits of a course of treatment at a Convalescent Home, for young children under the age of five years, was decided upon in the month of September. By this means the advantage of a stay in a Convalescent Home at Southport or elsewhere is now being given to young children who are suffering from debility due to pneumonia or other causes.

On a previous occasion it was arranged by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, in consultation with the Education Committee, that children under school age should be eligible for treatment supplied at the School Clinic for minor ailments, eye, dental, and orthopaedic complaints, enlarged tonsils, and adenoids.

The Council has now, the afore, in full use, a complete scheme for the treatment at the School Clinic and at Convalescent Homes for children from the time of birth to the date of leaving school.

During the year one child has been sent to the Children's Sanatorium, Southport, for three months. He was aged two years and nine months, and was a delicate child, suffering from debility and severe anemia. On his return he had gained 2 lbs. 13 ozs. in weight, his colour was much better and he had improved in every respect.

Section C Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water :—

During the year 1933 the water supply to Ashton-under-Lyne has been ample in quantity and excellent in quality.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supplied to Ashton-under-Lyne show it to be a good water.

The following is a copy of the analysis of Knott Hill Water, which forms part of the main supply to Ashton-under-Lyne :—

	Chemical Results expressed in grains per gallon.
Colour of the water in a 2 ft. glass tube equivalent to m.m's. Hazen soln.....	9
pH. Value	7.6
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0003
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0024
Nitrites, as Nitrogen	None
Nitrates, as Nitrogen .....	.048
Oxidisable Organic Matter :	
Oxygen absorbed from an acid soln. of n/80 KMNO ₄ acting for 4 hours at 60° Fahr. ...	0.037
Combined Chlorine	0.78
"Free" Acidity calcd. as CO ₂	0.21
Combined Alkalinity calcd as CaCO ₃	2.73
Total Hardness. Soap Test	4.6

Report. The chemical examination of the Knott Hill supply water shews it to be of excellent quality and quite fit for a public and industrial supply, and for distribution through metal service pipes and mains.

Quantity supplied during year. The quantity of water supplied to Ashton-under-Lyne district, which includes Audenshaw and Limehurst for the year ending 25th March, 1933, was :—

	gallons.
(1.) For domestic puposes.	413,197,000
(2.) For trade puposes.	133,927,600
(2a.) For trade puposes (waste water from disused gathering grounds).	29,552,300
Total.....	576,679,300

Consumption per head per day in gallons 19.78

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage :—

There have been no important extensions of sewerage beyond what was required for the new housing estates.

The arrangements for sewage disposal have not been altered and have proved quite satisfactory.

(iii) Public Cleansing :—

This has been carried out on the same lines as last year, when a full account was given of the same.

Number of dry ashpits	610
Number of fresh water closets.....	5036
Number of waste water closets	10169
Number of moveable ash bins	9059

Sanitary Inspection of the
Area
Smoke Abatement.
Special Classes of
Premises and Occupations
subject to control by the
Local Authority.

*See the Report of the
Chief
Sanitary Superintendent
appended.*

(iv) Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928 :—

We have no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Schools.

The sanitary condition and water supply of the Public Elementary Schools is satisfactory. Details of this are given in the Report of the School Medical Officer. It was not found necessary to close any schools during the year on account of infectious disease. The procedure adopted was the exclusion and observation of contacts.

Housing Conditions.**(i) General Observations.**

The Census of 1931 gave the number of structurally separate dwellings occupied, 13,368. The majority of these, viz: 8055 were four-roomed houses. The amount of over-

crowding has been lessened in recent years as is shewn by the fact that in 1921 the average of persons per room was 0.95, whereas in 1931 it was 0.87.

The number of private families living in overcrowded conditions of more than 2 per room, which means over 8 persons in a four-roomed cottage, was 327.

The number of back-to-back houses is quite small and is being gradually lessened as opportunity offers.

(2) — **Sufficiency of Supply.**

There is a general shortage of houses. The waiting list of applicants for Council Houses on December 30th, 1933, was 1862.

The number of new houses built during the period 1st January, 1919 to 31st December, 1933, is as follows :—

By the Local Authority	1131
By Private Enterprise	763
	—
Total.....	1894
	—

The houses which have been erected by the Local Authority are distributed over seven estates :

Gambrel Bank Estate -	-	101 houses
Broad oak	„ - -	157 „
Oakfold	„ - -	144 „
Hurst	„ - -	178 „
Hurst Knoll	„ - -	232 „
West End	„ - -	115 „
Heys (assisted)	„ - -	59 „
„ (unassisted)	- -	74 „

Unhealthy Area.

In 1932 confirmation was obtained from the Ministry of Health for a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of property in the Charlestown area. The 60 houses and 2 common lodging-houses which were involved have now been demolished and the tenants housed elsewhere. The site is now cleared.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Action taken with regard to :—

- (a) Milk supply
- (b) Meat and other Foods.
- (c) Adulteration, &c.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food is detailed in the following Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

A case of food poisoning occurred in the month of September, due apparently to the eating of potted meat.

A few hours after taking this meat three children were attacked with diarrhoea and vomiting. Two recovered after slight illness but the third died within twenty-four hours, the symptoms were, headache, vomiting, diarrhoea, and cardiac collapse. The diseased child was eleven years of age.

The meat was made from beef, mutton and pork, chopped up and made into a mold, several other members of the family eat of the same meat but were not affected. A sample of the meat from the same boiling was sent for examination at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester. The report upon the sample was "this proves negative, none of the food poisoning organisms having been isolated."

The three children affected eat of the meat on two occasions, tea and supper, the meat having been kept in the interval in a cupboard near the kitchen fire. In my opinion everything points to some contamination in the house between the period of tea and supper. No other cases occurred.

Nutrition.

For the purposes of propaganda, the notice boards belonging to the Empire Marketing Board have been taken over by your Committee. They will be used for the purpose of bringing before the general public, questions relating to Nutrition and Public Health.

The amount of free milk distributed averaged £32 in value per month.

Section F—Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

During the month of January, Influenza prevailed over the whole of the Borough. It was of a mild type, and the complications were mainly respiratory. Thirteen deaths were recorded from Influenza and two from Influenzal Pneumonia. The attendance of children at school was diminished, but only in one case, Trafalgar School, did it fall below 60%.

Later in the year a moderate number of cases of Whooping Cough and Measles occurred, but had no serious sequence.

Smallpox.

There have been no cases.

Scarlet Fever.

73 cases were notified. Of these, 41 were removed to the Borough Isolation Hospital and treated there.

Diphtheria

16 cases were notified. 10 of these were sent to Westhulme Hospital, Oldham. There were 0 deaths. A supply of Antitoxin is kept at the Central Police Station where it may be obtained free of cost by medical practitioners at any time of the day or night. 218,000 units were so issued.

No. of Cases and Deaths for the ten years 1924 to 1933 :—

		Cases,		Deaths.
1923	...	13	...	1
1924	...	15	...	1
1925	...	19	...	4
1926	...	16	...	2
1927	...	20	...	0
1928	...	27	...	6
1929	...	19	...	2
1930	...	36	...	3
1931	...	13	...	3
1932	...	24	...	1
1933	...	16	...	0

Cancer.

Cancer accounted for 85 deaths. Of these, 30 were males, 55 females. The ages at which they occurred were :—

Years...	25—45	45—65	65 and upwards
Deaths	7	36	42

Number of Deaths in the years :

1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
58	82	68	68	71	104	66	85

Circulars were distributed at the Maternity and Welfare Centres advising the public to obtain immediate medical advice in suspected cases.

Bacteriological examinations were made at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, of 48 Throat Swabs, 2 were found to contain Diphtheria Bacilli. 5 Typhoid, 0 Positive.

Disinfection of premises by Formalin or Sulphur was carried out in 187 cases. Disinfection of 101 articles by High Pressure Steam Disinfectors

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1933 :—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small-pox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	73	41	0
Diphtheria	16	10	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	2	1	0
Pneumonia	140	15	63
Other diseases generally noti- fiable. Enceph.			
Lethargica..	1	0	1
Other diseases notifiable locally—Cerebro Spinal			
Meningitis..	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	2	5

Prevention of Blindness.

Cases of Ophthalmia in the newly born are visited by your Health Visitors immediately upon receipt of notification by the County Authority. A report is made of the condition of the eyesight and the sufficiency or otherwise of treatment which is being given.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases			Vision un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	at home	In Hospital				
3	3	0	3	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1933.

Age—Periods.	New Cases.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0 1 ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..
1 5 ..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..
5 10 ..	..	..	3	2	1	..	..	..
10 15 ..	..	1	..	2	..	1	..	2
15 20 ..	3	2	1	3	2	1	..	..
20 25 ..	5	5	..	1	2	1	..	1
25 35 ..	6	8	1	3	1	2	..	2
35 45 ..	10	2	1	3	2	3	..	2
45 55 ..	7	..	..	..	2	1	..	1
55 65 ..	4	..	1	..	2	..	1	..
65 and upwards	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..
Totals ..	37	20	9	15	13	10	3	8

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 —

No action has been taken.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62 :

No action was taken under this Section

Report of the Tuberculosis Officer for the Year 1933.

During the year 1933, seventy-six notifications of patients suffering from Tuberculosis were received. Of these, fifty-four were notified as suffering from Tuberculosis of the Lungs, twenty-one from non-pulmonary Tuberculosis, and one combined case. The combined case had positive sputum.

Of the fifty-four pulmonary cases, thirty-six were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, five had negative sputum, twelve had no sputum. In Union Hospital or Institution when notified, 0 In one case, the sputum was not examined.

The twenty-one non-pulmonary cases are classified as follows :—

Glands 4	Abdomen .. 3	Spine .. 0	Elbow..... 1
Hip 4	Dactylitis .. 0	Meninges 5	Genito-urinary 0
Knee 1	Ribs..... 0	Multiple 0	Ankle..... 0
Skin..... 0	Foot..... 1	Skin & Glands	0
	Epididymis	2	

Twenty-five of the notified cases died during the year, (nineteen pulmonary, six non-pulmonary).

Fifty-nine of the cases applied for treatment. In the remaining seventeen cases, no application was made, for the following reasons :—diagnosis not confirmed after examination (3); in Union Hospital (0); Removed from district (0); Died immediately after notification (11); Refused to apply (3); No action necessary (0).

Of the patients who applied for treatment, twenty-five were sent to Sanatoria, seven to Pulmonary Hospital, one to General Hospital. Eight cases were sent to Orthopædic Hospital. The remaining eighteen cases were under Dispensary Supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, a number of patients are sent to the Dispensary for diagnosis. During the year two-hundred-and-thirty-nine new cases were sent for diagnosis by the Doctors, School Medical Officers, etc. The number of re-attendances of old patients at the Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment, was 1,027.

Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite Tuberculosis, and seventy-one of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting, special attention is paid to the open cases, *i.e.*, cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. On the 1st January, 1933, there were ninety-two such cases known to be living in the District. On the 31st December, 1933, there were ninety-eight positive cases living. These figures include quiescent and arrested cases.

Twenty-four of the positive cases died during the year.

Ten positive cases removed from the district during the year.

The condition as to isolation of the positive cases was as follows :

Separate room	84
Separate bed	40
Unable to have separate bed	8

Fifty-two of the positive cases were in Institution for treatment and isolation at some time during the year.

The number of positive cases living at 31st December, 1933, who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1933, was fifty-eight. The other forty had either negative or no sputum.

Of the fifty-eight cases who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1933, twenty-four had separate room, thirteen had separate bed, and twenty-one were in Institution at the end of the year.

Eight housing defects were reported during the year. Of these, eight had been remedied by the end of the year.

Four-hundred-and-ninety-two specimens of sputum were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these, seventy-nine were positive, and four-hundred-and-thirteen were negative.

During the year 1933, fifty-two cases were discharged from institutions as follows :

Sanatoria	24
Pulmonary Hospital	15

General Hospital.....	3
Orthopædic Hospital	8
Non-Pulmonary Sanatoria	2

The results on discharge were as follows :—

Quiescent or arrested	13
Improved	18
I.s.q.	7
Worse	7
Dead	7

During the year, there were four deaths from Tuberculosis where the cases had not been notified previously.

Venereal Diseases Clinic.

During the year 188 new patients attended the Clinic, of whom 72 were from Ashton-under-Lyne.

At the end of the year there were 214 patients under observation or treatment.

There were 7859 attendances at the Clinic during the year and 1506 injections of Arsenotengene Compound and Bismuth.

Total of inpatients days, 95.

The cinema film, " Damaged Lives," was shewn in one of our picture houses, over a period of two weeks. It drew crowded audiences and was much appreciated.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria.

The following tables show the number of rooms in the houses affected, cases notified, removed to Hospital, treated at home, also the number of occupants and rate of attack.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

No. of Rooms in the houses affected....	2	3	4	5	6	Over 6 rooms	Total
Cases notified	3	2	37	7	2	6	57
Cases treated at Sanatorium	3	1	22	4	1	6	37
Cases treated at Home	1	1	16	0	1	1	20
No. of occupants at all ages	9	11	152	39	7	11	229
Attack Rate per 1,000..	0.17	0.21	3.00	0.77	0.13	0.21	4.5

37 deaths were recorded. Death Rate 0.73.

Two cases of overcrowding were found to exist, one in a house of two rooms and one in a house of four rooms.

SCARLET FEVER.

No. of rooms in the houses affected	4	5	6	Over 6 Rooms	Totals.
Cases notified ..	35	0	26	12	73
Cases removed to Hospital....	20	0	12	9	41
Cases treated at Home	15	0	14	3	32
No. of occupants at all ages	154	0	109	46	309
Attack Rate per 1,000	3.0	0.0	2.15	0.90	6.11

One case of overcrowding was found to exist, which occurred in a house with four rooms.

DIPHTHERIA.

No. of rooms in houses affected	4	5	6	Over 6 rooms	Totals.
Cases notified	9	1	3	3	16
Cases removed to Hospital	7	0	0	3	10
Cases treated at home..	2	1	3	0	6
No. of Occupants at all ages	37	4	12	10	63
Attack Rate per 1,000..	0.73	0.07	0.23	0.19	1.24

Two deaths occurred. Death rate 0.039.

A RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS AND
DEATH RATE,
From the Principal Zymotic Diseases ; also Phthisis and
Respiratory Diseases, from 1924 to 1933 inclusive..

NAMES OF DISEASES	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Enteric .....	...	...	3	...	4	...	2	...	...	...
Malaria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	11	6	12	3	5	1	11	1	6	1
Scarlet Fever	3	...	1	...	1	1	2	1	1	...
Whooping Cough...	...	7	3	9	1	14	1	2	1	1
Diphtheria includ'g										...
Membranous Croup	1	4	2	...	6	2	3	3	2	2
Typhus Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	1	1	1	2	2	1	...	2	...	2
Diarrhoea {	8	15	11	12	7	7	3	1	...	9
Dysentery {										
Erysipelas .....	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox.....	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Leth. ...	...	1	2	2	2	7	3	2	1	1
Total Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	29	36	35	28	28	33	25	12	11	16
Death Rate from Zymotic Diseases.	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.48	0.23	0.21	0.31
Deaths Phthisis ..	30	43	46	38	62	39	36	39	31	37
Rate	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.75	0.69	0.75	0.59	0.73
Deaths from Res- piratory Diseases	102	144	103	92	101	170	72	105	82	117
Rate	2.3	3.2	2.3	1.8	1.9	3.2	1.39	2.02	1.5	0.2
Deaths from other Causes.....	422	428	445	514	532	623	509	555	573	534
Rate	9.6	9.8	10.4	9.9	10.2	11.9	9.83	10.7	10.9	10.5
Total Deaths from all causes	583	649	629	672	722	865	642	711	697	704
General Death Rate from all causes...	13.2	14.7	14.6	13.2	13.8	16.6	12.4	13.7	13.3	13.9

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1933 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Estimated Population	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Number	Rate.*	Number	Rate.*	of Non- residents registered in the district.	of Residents not registered in the district.	Under year of age		At all Ages.	
									Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1928.....	51960	720	747	14.3	1024	19.7	360	58	52	96.6	722	13.8
1929.....	51750	913	725	14.0	1270	24.5	452	45	78	107.5	863	16.6
1930.....	51750	947	739	14.2	999	19.3	405	48	43	58.1	642	12.4
1931.....	51840	975	735	14.7	1021	19.8	349	39	53	69.2	711	13.7
1932.....	51040	964	690	13.5	1094	21.4	407	38	58	85.5	697	13.3
1933.....	50540	931	634	12.5	1139	22.5	435	33	41	64.6	704	13.9

* Rates in columns 5, 7 and 13 are calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 1933. Total population of all ages, 51040.

Number of inhabited houses, 13,871 Average number of persons per house, 3.73.

At census
} of 1931.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age during the Year ending 31st December, 1933.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	{ Certified	12	1	5	1	19	5	7	6	4	41
	{ Uncertified .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Chicken-pox .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Diphtheria and (Croup) .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Whooping Cough .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Diarrhoea .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Enteritis .....		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	3
{ Tuberculous .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Meningitis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
{ Abdominal .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Tuberculosis (b) .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Other Tuberculous .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Disenses .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Congenital .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Malformations (c)		2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	3
{ Premature Birth		8	..	2	..	10	..	..	..	..	10
{ Atrophy, Debility .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ and Marasmus .....		..	..	2	..	2	2	2	..	..	6
Atelectasis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at Birth .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Meningitis not .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Tuberculous .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Convulsions .....		..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	3
Gastritis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Laryngitis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .....		..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	3
{ Pneumonia, (all .....		..	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	3	6
{ forms) .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Suffocation, .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ overlying)		2	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	1	5
Other Causes .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total		12	1	5	1	19	5	7	6	4	41

Nett Births in the Year { Legitimate, 606.
 { Illegitimate, 28.

Nett Deaths in the Year { Legitimate, 39.
 { Illegitimate, 2.

DISEASE.	(3)—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—CASES NOTIFIED.														Total Cases Notified in each Locality (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.										Total Deaths.	Hospital.	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	YEARS.														1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
		Un- der 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	St. Peter's Ward	Port- land Ward	Mar- ket Ward	Mich- nel's Ward	Hurst East Ward	Hurst West Ward	Lake Hos- pital	In- firmary	Boro' Hos- pital					
Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	16	..	..	..	1	3	5	2	..	4	1	..	..	2	4	4	2	..	3	..	1	..	2	10	..
Erysipelas	22	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	6	8	3	5	..	7	4	3	2	1	..	..	..	2	..
Scarlet Fever	73	..	1	2	3	5	30	16	5	7	4	..	..	9	5	18	21	2	12	3	3	..	..	41	..
Enteric Fever including Paratyphoid .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trench Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Eucephalitis Lethargica ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia	117	7	12	8	8	5	15	7	4	12	12	21	6	31	10	27	16	11	9	13	..	..	48	12	..
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.....	19	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	7	4	4	..	5	6	..	3	2	..	3	..	..	5	3	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	57	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	7	21	15	10	1	10	11	15	5	5	7	4	..	..	37	2	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis	24	1	..	..	1	1	5	3	5	4	3	1	..	7	2	5	2	..	3	4	1	..	9	1	..
Any other diseases notifiable in district ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles and German Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Diarrhoea, &c., (under 2 years) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken Pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any other diseases Puerperal Pyrexia.....	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
Totals.....	339	11	16	11	14	14	56	30	22	63	48	44	10	71	40	81	55	23	36	28	5	..	105	74	..		



CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1933.

Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District' (a)										St. Peter's Ward.		Portland Ward.		Market Ward.		Michael's Ward.		Hurst East Ward		Hurst West Ward		Lake Hospital		Infirmiry		Borough Hospital.		Totals.		Total Deaths of "Non- Residents" in Institutions in the District. (b)
CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages.	under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Under 5	Above 5	Males.	Females.	11
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10																					
ALL { Certified (c) CAUSES { Uncertified	702 2	40 1	5 0	12 0	19 0	18 0	91 0	181 1	336 0	9 1	118 0	10 0	65 1	10 0	105 0	6 0	65 0	2 0	45 0	5 0	41 0	14 0	146 0	1 0	60 0	0 0	0 0	335 2	367 0	435 0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers..... Measles..... Scarlet Fever..... Whooping Cough..... Diphtheria..... Influenza..... Encephalitis Lethargica..... Cerebro-Spinal Fever..... Tuberculosis of respiratory system..... Other Tuberculous Diseases..... Syphilis..... General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes, Dorsalis..... Cancer, Malignant Diseases..... Diabetes..... Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c..... Heart Disease..... Aneurysm..... Other Circulatory Diseases..... Bronchitis..... Pneumonia (all forms)..... Other Respiratory Diseases..... Peptic Ulcer..... Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)..... Appendicitis..... Cirrhosis of Liver..... Other Diseases of Liver, etc..... Other Digestive Diseases..... Acute and Chronic Nephritis..... Puerperal Sepsis..... Other Puerperal Causes..... Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc..... Senility..... Suicide..... Other violence..... Other Defined Diseases..... Causes ill-defined or unknown..... Special Causes (included in No. 35 above) Smallpox, Poliomyelitis Polioencephalitis..... Total.....	.. 1 .. 1 2 29 1 1 37 9 2 5 104 7 36 181 1 20 31 53 4 9 4 4 3 13 27 2 2 20 19 11 19 42 ..																													

Included in the above are 39 deaths of residents not registered in the district which have been allocated to the diseases, wards and sex to which they belong.



SUMMARY OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND RATES IN WARDS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, DURING THE YEAR 1933.

39

WARDS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS		Deaths & Rate under 5 years		Deaths & Rate under 1 year		Zymotic Deaths and Rate	
	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.
St. Peter's	112	8.3	128	9.5	9	0.6	6	54.5	0	0.0
Portland Place.....	86	10.6	76	9.7	10	1.2	6	71.4	0	0.0
Market.....	104	8.1	115	9.0	8	0.6	6	58.8	0	0.0
St. Michael's.....	66	8.6	71	9.2	2	0.2	1	15.6	0	0.0
Hurst ... { East.....	38	8.6	47	10.6	0	0.0	0	0.0.0	0	0.0
{ West	58	10.3	46	8.2	5	1.1	5	89.2	0	0.0
Ward Totals and Average.....	464	9.0	483	9.3	34	0.6	24	53.0	0	0.0
Lake Hospital	148	...	160	...	20	...	15	...	1	...
Infirmary	22	...	61	...	4	...	2	...	0	...
Borough Hospital	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...
Totals and Rate for Borough	634	12.5	704	13.9	58	1.1	41	64.6	1	0.01
Corresponding period last year ...	690	13.5	697	13.6	85	1.6	58	84.0	1	0.01

The Rate of Infant Mortality is measured by the proportion of Deaths under One Year to Births.

BIRTHS.

Males.....330

Females....304

DEATHS.

Males.....337

Females...367

Decrease of Population 70 Illegitimate Births... 28 Inquests, 48

634

704

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1933.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health & Building Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Councillor Heginbottom, and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit for your consideration my Second Annual Report regarding the work carried out in my Department during 1933.

Further progress has been made with the first part of the Charlestown Compulsory Purchase Area, and at the end of the year 59 houses had been demolished.

In September 1933 a revised five years' programme was submitted to the Ministry of Health. Under this scheme it is intended to deal with 8 Clearance Areas, and 50 individually unfit houses during that period.

At the request of the Cleansing Committee and on your instructions in February, I submitted a Report dealing with the arrangements made in the Borough for the storage of house refuse, and after careful consideration my recommendations were adopted.

The scheme visualised the abolition of all the dust tubs in the town and their replacement by properly galvanised iron dust bins.

In view of the tendency of modern cleansing practice to use a standard type of dust bin, it was agreed that the necessary bins should be provided by the Corporation at a reduced rate.

In order to comply with the requirements of the scheme it was necessary that certain alterations should be carried out. In this connection we have been able to arrange for many other improvements to be effected in connection with the work of altering the existing ashes accommodation.

In a large number of instances no proper coal stores were available and in very many cases, places originally intended for pantry accommodation were used as coal stores, or used jointly as a food pantry and coal store, and in others coal was stored in wooden erections in the private yards. Numerous instances were found in which these sheds had been erected without the submission of plans.

In order to improve the general conditions, in numerous cases the existing ash recesses were so altered that they could be used as coal houses, pantries were then able to be used for their original and intended purpose, and the sheds in the

private yards were pulled down. Owing to the congested state of many parts of the town the yard areas are often very restricted, and the taking away of these wooden erections has undoubtedly tended to increase the light and air space to the dwelling houses.

In accordance with your instructions it was decided to carry out the work systematically as far as practicable, and a commencement was made in the Portland Place Ward, and at the end of the year practically all the dwelling houses in this Ward, and a large number in the St. Peter's Ward had been supplied with dust bins.

It was estimated that 2,000 dust bins would be supplied during the year, but this estimate was exceeded, and between the end of February and the end of December, 2,479 dust bins were sent out to the various properties.

In connection with this matter, I am pleased to report, that after the scheme had been explained to them, practically all the owners upon whom notices had been served, agreed to carry out our suggestions, and on numerous occasions have expressed their wholehearted approval. The tenants too, have very greatly appreciated the improved conditions, and there is no doubt at all that the result of the action taken by the Committee has been a cleaner and better method of storing house refuse.

Meat Inspection has again occupied a considerable portion of the time of your officials. Mr. T. C. Ward the additional Sanitary Inspector has carried out the routine inspections, and in this and other matters connected with the Department has continued to render very valuable assistance, and I should like to place on record my appreciation of his work.

Owing to the great increase in the work of the Department especially in housing matters, it was decided to increase the clerical staff, and in August 1933, Miss Agnes Hartley was appointed as shorthand typist, and I am pleased to be able to report that she has carried out all her work in a conscientious and able manner, and the selection made by your Sub-Committee has proved to be a good one in all respects.

We have now had twelve months experience of the increased office accommodation. The more commodious premises have proved to be a great boon to the staff, and on their behalf and my own, I should like to express our deep appreciation of your action in this matter.

I should like to again record my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Building Committee

and to the Medical Officer of Health for the help they have given me during the year. The deep interest that has always been shown in the work of the Department and the support always extended to me, have been, in no small measure, responsible for the successful carrying out of many difficult and delicate duties.

Yours respectfully,

C. SYKES HANDFORTH.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Ashton-under-Lyne

May 1933.

Summary.

Details of Inspections made and Work carried out during 1933.

Number of Nuisances reported and found (excluding dust bin scheme)	1008
" " abated	997
Statutory Notices served.....	0
Preliminary Notices and Letters served with respect to Nuisances	377
Notices sent <i>re</i> infectious diseases	56
Number of cases removed to Infectious Diseases Hospital	74
" houses disinfected	187
" library books disinfected	18
" articles removed and destroyed.....	20
" visits to houses <i>re</i> infectious diseases	90
Number of visits to premises <i>re</i> defective and choked W.C's and W.W.C's, etc... ..	602
" " " slop sinks, waste and soil pipes	40
" " under Housing Acts	723
" " common lodging-houses, furnished rooms and dwelling vans	97
" " slaughter-houses and bakehouses ...	1156
" " cowsheds, milkshops, refreshment houses and ice cream makers.....	63

„	„	Factories and Workshops.....	41
„	„	Offensive Trade Premises.....	7
„	„	Reinspections—work in progress, etc.	796
Number of smoke observations taken			18
„	„	Samples taken under Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act	121
„	„	notices and letters served re Ashpit Con- version Scheme	2337
„	„	Dust Bins supplied	2479
„	„	visits to premises in connection with Ashpit Scheme.....	3257

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops & Workplaces

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecution (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	19	5	..
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries) ..	10	2	..
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' premises) ..	12	..	..
Total	41	7	..

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	4	3	0	0
Want of Ventilation	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0
Want of drainage of floors	0	0	0	0
Other nuisances	0	0	0	0
<i>Sanitary Accommodation—</i>				
insufficient	2	2	0	0
unsuitable or defective ..	0	0	0	0
not separate for sexes ..	1	1	0	0
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground lukehouse (s. 101)	0	0	0	0
Other offences	0	0	0	0
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Fac- tories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
Total	7	6	0	0

FOOD SUPPLY.

The number of Cowkeepers in the Borough is now only five, one cowshed having been closed during the year, the land attached being used for building purposes.

During 1933 sixteen samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories at Manchester for examination for the presence of the Tubercle Bacilli as compared with twelve samples in 1932. Two of these samples (both from the same farm) were reported to be positive. One cow was slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order

1925, and on post-mortem examination was found to be effected with Generalised Tuberculosis, the whole of the carcass and organs being removed to the destructor and burnt.

Nine samples of milk were taken for Bacterial Count and for examination for the presence of *Bacillus Coli* and with the exception of one sample all were satisfactory. With regard to the unsatisfactory sample the vendor was interviewed and advice given by your officials and later samples from the same source were found to be in accordance with the terms of the licence issued to him by you.

Sampling for the two purposes mentioned above is very important as by this means we can ascertain with accuracy the purity of the milk produced and supplied in the town, and when opportunity occurs I would strongly recommend that increased activity should be displayed in this direction, particularly in regard to the supply of ordinary milks. Although there is at the present time no official standard regarding the permissible bacterial content of this type, very important work can be done and great improvement result from the sampling of milks of this nature.

There are of course difficulties in the way of action such as is suggested the principal one of course being that only a very small proportion of the milk consumed is produced within the area and under our direct control and supervision.

Table No 1.

No. of Sample	Type of Milk.	Total Bacteria per c.c.	B. Coli present in 1/100 c.c.
1	Pasteurized	74,666	Absent
2	Pasteurized	910,000	Present
3	Pasteurized	13,100	Absent
4	Pasteurized	6,566	Present
5	Mixed	3,400	Absent
6	Grade A (T.T.) Mixed	670	Absent
7	Pasteurized	51,000	Absent
8	Pasteurized	4,800	Absent
9	Pasteurized	840	Absent

Milk (Special Designations) Order 1923.

I am pleased to be able to report that further licences have been issued under the above Order. All milk for which a designation is used as provided in the above Order must comply with a definite legal standard of purity, and although there is some confusion in the minds of the general public as

to the precise meaning of the designations there is no doubt that the Order has been the means of putting on the market milk of a superior quality so far as cleanliness is concerned.

There are three grades of raw milk dealt with under the Order viz:—

- Certified.
- Grade "A" (T.T.)
- Grade "A"

The highest grade is the Certified Milk and the lowest Grade "A".

Certified milk must be bottled at the place of production and cannot be sold in bulk quantities, but milk produced as Certified can be sold in a lower grade. For example a Certified Milk can be sold as Grade "A" (T.T.) Milk, and in this way it is possible to despatch it in bulk quantities.

The only objection is of course the difficulty of supplying these grades at a price within the means of the ordinary consumer. To produce milks of this character is a costly matter from the farmers point of view.

For example cows producing a Certified or Grade "A" (T.T.) Milk must submit to a tuberculin test every six months and reactors are promptly excluded from the herds, and it is possible for a farmer to be put to considerable expense in this direction.

Further, in order to produce milk of this standard, properly constructed dairies etc. must be provided. All these add to the cost of production which of course adds to the retail price of the milk.

In my opinion, the time has arrived when all milk sold should at least reach the standard laid down for Grade "A". This standard is not an impossible one, and with proper methods is easily attainable by the ordinary producer. Elaborate cowsheds are not necessary, the principal factor being that scrupulous cleanliness must be observed, and it is within my personal knowledge that very good results are being obtained from cows which are housed in old buildings adapted for this purpose, many of them with but little alteration.

The licences issued under the above Order during the year were:—

- Two licences to use the designation "Pasteurized".
- One licence , , , , , Grade "A" (T.T.)
- One Supplementary licence to use the designation "Pasteurized".

The issuing of a licence to sell milk under the designation Grade "A" (T.T.) was a very pleasing feature of this branch of the work. It is now possible to obtain this high class milk in the town, the milk being produced outside and brought in bottles into the district.

The two Pasteurizing plants have continued to give good results as will be seen from the table given above.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928.

During 1933, 122 samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst and the following table gives details of the samples taken.

In pursuance of the policy of increasing the sampling of liquid milk, 60 such samples have been taken compared with 42 during the previous year. The number of samples of all kinds taken compares with 104 for the previous year, an increase of 18 samples.

The average proportion of fat in the 60 samples of milk amounted to 3.71 compared with 3.53 in 1932 and the non-fatty solids to 8.88 compared with 8.88 in the previous year.

With regard to the 14 samples of Whisky 2 samples were found to be adulterated. The adulteration in each case was only small and it was decided that a letter of warning to the vendors would meet the case.

During the year 12 samples of milk were taken on behalf of the Lancashire County Council. All these were certified to be "Genuine".

Table No. 2.

Whisky	14
Milk	60
Ice Cream	4
Sausages	7
Butter	4
Dried Milk	2
Cod liver Oil	1
Vinol	1
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	1
Currants	4
Jam	4
Raisins	4
Lard	4
Margarine	4

Rum	4
Coffee	4
Total.....	<u>122</u>

MEAT INSPECTION

Meat inspection continues to occupy a prominent place in the work of the Department, and although there has been an increase of nearly two tons in the total amount of meat and offals surrendered and destroyed, this does not mean a deterioration in the class of animal killed in the Borough. For example of the 7 cows found to be unfit for human consumption 6 were animals brought into the Borough for slaughter from outside districts, and the remaining cow was slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

The quantity of offals surrendered shows an increase over 1932, the number of heads and tongues surrendered being 230 as compared with 186 in 1932.

The chief cause of surrender was due to the presence of Tuberculosis and the judgment of each animal or organ was based upon the recommendations of the Ministry of Health which are contained in Memo. 62 Foods.

Our relations with the local butchers continue to be good and I am glad to be able to report that apart from minor infringements the regulations have been adhered to.

All the meat and offals were voluntarily surrendered and it was not necessary to carry out the procedure of seizure on any occasion during the year, the owners being satisfied with the judgment of your Inspectors.

On all occasions the owners are given the opportunity of calling in their own expert when any difference of opinion arises but this privilege was not exercised on any occasion during the year,

The number of slaughterhouses in the town is 13, five of them being licensed and eight registered.

Tables Nos. 3 and 4 give the amount of meat and offals surrendered during the year.

TABLE No. 3**Carcases with all organs condemned as totally unfit for human consumption.**

Animal	Tuberculosis	Accident	Inflammatory Diseases	Other Conditions
Cows	6	-	1	-
Bullocks	1	1	-	-
Pigs	3	1	-	8
Sheep	-	5	-	-

Carcases partially condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Animal	Tuberculosis	Accident	Inflammatory Diseases	Other Conditions
Cows	3	-	-	-
Heifers	2	-	-	1
Bullocks	2	-	1	1
Pigs	7	1	-	8

TABLE No. 4**Various Organs condemned as unfit for Human Consumption,**

	Head	Tongue	Lungs	Livers	Stomachs	Hearts	Spleens	Mesenteries	Intestines	Udders	Kidneys	Diaphragms
Tuberculosis.												
Bovines	36	36	34	13	2	10	6	28	4	4	6	4
Pigs	194	194	23	9	1	18	2	119	1	-	-	-
Inflammatory Diseases.												
Bovines	-	-	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	-	1
Pigs	-	-	8	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parasitic Diseases.												
Bovines	13	13	2	20	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pigs	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases & Conditions.												
Bovines	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pigs	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheep	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The following table gives some idea of the work involved in this particular branch of my Department.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses during 1933 ...	1124
„ „ food premises	1191
No. of carcasses inspected :	
Cattle	1542
Sheep and lambs	7809
Pigs	2186
Total	11,537

The total weight of meat and offals destroyed during the year as diseased, unsound and unfit for the food of man was 19,402 lbs or 8 tons, 13 cwts, 26 lbs.

RAT REPRESSION.

National Rat Week was celebrated in the Borough from Nov. 6th to Nov. 11th, 1933. The occupiers of slaughterhouses, factories, workshops, food preparing premises etc., were all circularised calling their attention to the urgent necessity of taking the requisite steps to free their premises from rats and mice. A special circular was drawn up and the Director of Education very kindly arranged to have same brought to the notice of Headmasters and Mistresses with a view to their drawing the attention of their senior pupils to the matter.

Special steps were also taken on properties under the control of the Corporation.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

There were no outbreaks of contagious diseases during the year.

Conversion Scheme.

Abolition of Ashpits, etc.

At the end of February the Council decided to accelerate the abolition of the ashpits and ashtubs in the town. For some time arrangements had been in operation whereby owners could obtain dust bins from the Corporation at a reduced rate, but very little progress appeared to have been made. However

it was decided that the work should be placed on a proper and systematic basis and efforts made to push forward with the scheme.

In pursuance of this scheme and during 1933—1,611 notices were issued concerning 2,846 houses and 726 letters were sent.

Apart from the additional work entailed, the scheme will call for increased expenditure, but it is hoped that when completed this additional cost will be more than recovered by a more efficient method of collecting house refuse. A standard size of dust bin will be in use throughout the whole area and with modern cleansing practice leading in the direction of dustless loading, it will be possible to carry out this method of collection without any difficulty if and when it is thought desirable to adopt this way of dealing with the matter. Many towns are adopting this method with very satisfactory results and it is only a question of time before it will be in operation in all progressive and up-to-date areas. The advantage of removing the contents of dust bins without distributing clouds of dust is obvious and such a method of collection is very desirable.

Housing Statistics.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | - | - | - | 247 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | | | | 723 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated Regulations, 1925. | | | - | 247 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | | | | 723 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | - | - | - | 2 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | | | - | 245 |

(2) *Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers - 165

(3) *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

(A).—Proceedings under sections 17, 18, 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) by owners - - - 0

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners - - - 0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied - - - 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) by owners - - - 0

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners - - - 0

C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made - 14

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders - 8

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made - - - 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit - - - 0



